AUTHENTIC MEMOIRS, &c.

AT this Period, when our utmoſt Efforts ſhould be uſed to prevent the fatal Effects of our treacherous Foes attacks on all ſides; at this Time, when we are not only at open War, with *France*, our natural and conſtant Enemy, but alſo engaged to ſupport his Majeſty of *Pruſſia*, who is beſet every where by the moſt formidable Powers of *Europe*; in ſhort, at this Juncture, when we are contending with the *Gallic* Arms, not for the Deciſion of any trifling Punctilio, for titular Power, or Precedence in Embaſſy;

but for the Proteſtant Religion, our Liberties, our Country and Poſterity: It behoves Us to be particularly ſecret in all our Enterpriſes and Deſigns; for what avail the beſt concerted Expeditions, and the moſt ſagacious Plans of Operations if they get Air, and are communicated to the Enemy time enough for their Fruſtration? They ſerve only to encreaſe the National Expence, to ſacrifice our Troops and Seamen, and render us the Deriſion of the other Power of *Europe*.

In this view, then, Secrecy is one of the moſt eſſential Promoters of Succeſs—with it indifferent Projects may turn to the Advantage of the Nation; without it the beſt framed Plans muſt prove abortive.

However irritated we may be againſt our common Enemy, the Diſturbers of our Repoſe and that of all *Europe*, who have ſo long graſped at univerſal Monarchy, and left no Stone unturned to gratify their Luſt of Power and Ambition: With whatever Juſtice we proſecute this War, and ſeize every Opportunity of diſtreſſing

diſtreſſing our Foes, and wounding them in their very Vitals; thoſe Perturbators of the public Quiet, who interpret the Spirit and Letter of Treaties, as they occaſionally ſerve their Purpoſe; who could explain away by their caſuiſtical and jeſuitical Chicanery, the Senſe and Meaning of the 12th Article of the Treaty of *Utrecht*, and reduce *Nova Scotia*, tho' ceded to us in its full Extent, according to its antient Limits, to little more than the *Peninſula*, and by that Means light the Torch of the War, which has ſpread from *America* to *Europe*.

I ſay, how much more deſerving of our Vengeance, are thoſe unnatural Monſters, thoſe Boſom-Serpents, who while they fatten upon our Soil, uſe every Art, and exhauſt their whole Cunning to deſtroy us? The Reader certainly anticipates the Explanation of my Meaning, by ſuggeſting thoſe ſecret Emiſſaries, who lurk about this Metropolis and our Sea-Ports, to convey to the Enemy the firſt Intelligence of our Deſigns, and the Deſtination of our Armaments.

We may with far greater Juſtice aſcribe the Cauſe of our many Miſcarriages, as well upon the Continent, as by Sea and in our Colonies, to theſe Miſcreants, than to want of Unanimity in our Councils, the Claſhing Ambition of our Adminiſtrators, or to the ill Conduct of our Commanders. Theſe may, and undoubtedly have ſome Weight in the Failure of our Enterpriſes; but theſe determined, tho' ſecret Enemies, are the real, the general Sources of all our ill Succeſſes.

The Lenity of our Laws, and the Security of the Liberty of the Subject, are great Obſtacles to the Detection of Spies; as the Government is, and ought to be cautious in taking up Perſons without Grounds to ſuſpect their Conduct; yet without a clear and evident Proof, which in many Caſes cannot be obtained, the Delinquent eſcapes Juſtice by the Legality of its Infliction. If a Perſon is taken into the Cuſtody of one of his Majeſty's Meſſengers, upon a Suſpicion of carrying on a treaſonable or illegal Correſpondence;

reſpondence; he may immediately demand a Copy of the Secretary of State's Warrant, which authoriſed his Apprehenſion, and move for his *Habeas Corpus*, to be brought before the Court of King's Bench, and be either ſet at Liberty, bailed or committed; according to the Circumſtances which appear againſt him. When theſe Circumſtances are not ſufficient to convict him, he is either bailed or ſet at Liberty; ſo that a Form of Law is all his Puniſhment.

It is therefore, with all due Submiſſion to the Legiſlature, hinted in this Place, that a more effectual Law ſhould be paſſed for the Detection of theſe worſt of Incendiaries, who by means of their Privacy, are more difficult to detect, as they ſeldom have Accomplices. If a Wretch that is ſtarving takes from me but a Shilling, he is hanged; whilſt a Traitor, that ſells his Country to its Enemies, by the Lenity of the Law, eſcapes.

In *France*, and all other deſpotic Countries, when a Spy is detected, whether

ther in a Camp, or not; and the Government is fully convinced of his Guilt; without giving themſelves any more Trouble for obtaining a circumſtantial Proof, he is hanged up without further Proceſs. This we can never Practice, where the military Law does not extend its Influence.

BUT if, even, with all theſe Advantages on the Traitor's ſide, he is clearly and evidently proved to have carried on a treaſonable Correſpondence, what Puniſhment can be too ſevere, or what Heart, that feels for its Country, can have a Pang at its Infliction?

FLORENCE HENSEY, who is the Subject of the preſent Sheets, was born in the County of *Kildare* in *Ireland*, from whence he came very young to *England*, and ſoon after went over to *Holland*, where he was educated in the Univerſity of *Leyden*. His natural Parts were rather phlegmatic than ſprightly, ſo that he made greater Advances in Phyſic and the laborious Sciences, than in polite Literature.

Literature. He afterwards travelled in *Switzerland*, and continued ſome time at *Bern*, from whence he went to *Italy*. By Sea he came from *Genoa* to *Lisbon*, and traverſed *Spain* in his way to *France*. By theſe Travels he gained a competent Knowledge of *Italian*, *Portugueſe*, and *Spaniſh*, and his Reſidence for ſome Years at *Paris*, enabled him to ſpeak and write with great Fluency the *French* Tongue.

DURING his Travels abroad, he ſupported himſelf in quality of a Phyſician, and came over to *England* in hopes of ſettling here in that Character; but either he had not Intereſt, or Merit to recommend him, for we cannot learn that he had any Patients of Conſequence, though ſome of his Preſcriptions were the Means of his Detection.

HAVING continued a literary Correſpondence, ſince he left the Univerſity, with a fellow Student who reſided at *Paris*, and had lately got into the Secretary of State's Office for foreign Affairs, he wrote to him a more than uſual compli-

mentary Letter, informing him in general Terms, " he ſhould be glad of an Op-
" portunity of doing him any Service
" that lay in his Power, and executing
" any Commiſſions he might have in
" *London*," which general Invitation his Correſpondent ſhrewdly conſtrued into a Deſire of commencing a criminal Correſpondence; but as he did not think proper to hazard any *Communications*, 'till ſuch time as he ſhould be convinced of the Doctor's real Intentions; he wrote word back, " that he was infinitely oblig'd
" to him for the Service he offer'd, and
" that if he underſtood him rightly, their
" Correſpondence might be rendered
" more advantageous to both, by chang-
" ing their Topics from literary to politi-
" cal." The Doctor wrote back, " he
" was glad to find ſo diſcerning a Man in
" his Fellow-Student, and if he could
" obtain for him a Recompenſe ſuitable
" to the Trouble, he would endeavour
" to make his Intelligence of the utmoſt
" Importance." By the next Poſt he received an Anſwer, containing Inſtructions, Directions, and an *Appointment* of 500 Livres

Livres (about 25*l.* Sterling) a Quarter. The Inſtructions were, to ſend Liſts of all our Men of War, in and out of Commiſſion; their Condition, Situation, the Number of Men on board each; when they ſailed, under what Commanders, from what Ports, and their Deſtinations. Accounts of the actual Number of our Troops, what Regiments were compleat, and which, where recruiting, where they were quartered or garriſoned. The earlieſt Account of any Enterpriſes againſt *France*. Plans of fortified Places in *England*, *America*, &c. The Directions were of thoſe Perſons to whom he was to direct an outſide Cover, ſome at *Cologne*, ſome at the *Hague*, and ſome at *Bern* in *Switzerland*: And they were to forward his Letters from thoſe reſpective Places to *Paris*.

THO' the Doctor was far from being ſatisfied with this Stipend, he nevertheleſs thought proper to accept of it, in hopes by his Merit to obtain a greater Salary. With this View he endeavoured to inſinuate himſelf into the good Graces of

ſome of the Clerks in our Offices, in hopes by their means to gain Intelligence of what was tranſacting concerning naval and military Affairs. But not finding in them any ſuch treacherous Diſpoſition, as animated him, he, after ſome fruitleſs Efforts, gave over the Attempt, fearing their Zeal might animate them to make a Diſcovery of any Hints he might give of his Deſign. So that we do not find he had any Connections with the Clerks in our Offices, as ſome People have ſuppoſed.

But we find, that being fruſtrated in this Deſign, he uſed to frequent all the political Coffee-houſes about Town. He frequently paſſed Hours in Silence at *Tom*'s in *Devereux Court*; the Largeneſs of his Peruke, and the Sanction of Doctor, rendering him unſuſpected among the Phyſical Gentlemen that reſort there. He often puſhed himſelf into the back Room at *Old Slaughter*'s, and picked up as much Prejudice, and ill-natur'd Remarks upon the Situation and Conduct of our Affairs, as repleniſhed a Sheet next Poſt. He plied

plied at the *Mount*, under Pretence of reading the *Hague Gazette*, though he had got it by heart before at the 'Change. A conſtant Cuſtomer at the St. *James's* or the *Smyrna* of a Council Day; and never failed being at the *Cocoa-Tree* after the Houſe was up. By this means he got acquainted with many Particulars, that remained perfect Secrets to us a long while. It is confidently aſſerted, that it was reſolved in Council ſo late as the 24th of *July*, to attack *Rochefort*, and that his Letter of the 29th of the ſame Month, particularly mention'd this Reſolution, and that General *Mordaunt* and Admiral *Hawke*, were at that time unacquainted therewith.

I cannot, in this Place, help taking the Liberty of hinting the Caution that ſhould be uſed amongſt thoſe Gentlemen who are intruſted with the Secrets of the Cabinet, in divulging them; the Neceſſity there is of being reſerved in all public Places, but more particularly in Coffee-Houſes; where perhaps your next Neighbour, tho' ever ſo phyſically, or well dreſſed,

dreſſed, may be a *French* Emiſſary or Spy. And thoſe Gentlemen under whoſe Inſpection the Accounts of the Nation, the Eſtimates, and Liſts of the Army and Navy come; ſhould alſo be very prudent how they communicate their Knowledge: Since it is plain by this Man's Intelligence, that many Things of Importance are picked up from Coffee-houſe Chat, and tranſmitted to our declared Enemies.

He never entered into any political Controverſies, but when there was an abſolute Neceſſity of giving his Opinion, he always decided in favour of *England*; by this means, though a Papiſt, he was never ſuſpected by thoſe he converſed with, and they were free and open in their Diſcourſe, as he paſſed for a Man of a philoſophical Turn, who never troubled himſelf with any political Concerns: Nor was he ſuſpected of any ſuch illegal Practices in the Houſe where he lodged, having appointed a Coffee-houſe near St. *Clement*'s Church for the Receipt of his Letters under a fictitious Name.

He had continued his Correſpondence from the Beginning of the Year 1756, without any material Interruption, writing upon the Margin of a News-Paper ſuch News and Obſervations as were not there contained; by this means the Examiners of the Poſt-Office where deceived, and let theſe Letters paſs, imagining there was nothing more contained but this News-Paper. At length his Employers complained of the Inſignificancy of his Intelligence, and the Neceſſity there was of extending his Plan, otherwiſe they would diſcontinue his *Appointment*, and actually threatened to deduct a Guinea, for every Letter that did not contain ſome Advice of Importance. This Letter, which was tranſmitted from *Paris* by the *Hague*, contained nothing ſeemingly but a few wide Lines, wrote upon the moſt trifling, complimentary Subject; and was therefore re-ſealed and conveyed to him by means of the fictitious Direction. An Anſwer to this came from him, which was ſent by *Holland*, to *Paris*. This Letter of the Doctor, which then appeared upon Examination to be nothing but

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an Anſwer to the Compliments, contained (as has ſince been found by the Copies he kept by him) a Repreſentation of the Smallneſs of his Income, which was not ſufficient to make him neglect his Practice, and keep ſuch Company as proper Intelligence was to be obtained from.

These wide-wrote Letters had their deſired Effect, by paſſing unnoticed for ſome Time at the Poſt-Office; at length the Secretary ſuſpecting there muſt be ſomething more contained than theſe correſponding Trifles, held one to the Fire, when many Lines, wrote with Lemon-Juice, between the black ones, plainly appeared.

This Letter, which was dated from *Twickenham*, after giving a very exact Account of the State of our Finances, the Condition of our Fleet and Army, their Diſpoſition, how many Ships guarded, and how many Troops lined the Coaſts of *England*, concluded with aſſerting that "the only means of pre-

"venting

" venting the Succeſs of the Expedition " (to *Rochfort*) would be to make a pow- " erful Diverſion upon the Coaſt of *Eng-* " *land*, with a conſiderable Body of " Troops; that by thus attacking us in " our very Vitals, we might be engaged " at Home, and ſo prevented being able " to ſend a Number of Troops Abroad " ſufficient to give them any real An- " noyance."

Thus this execrable Traitor, not content with giving our perfidious Foes all the Intelligence he could glean together, of our Force, Situation, and Intentions muſt even counſel and adviſe them to come and attack us in our very Vitals, to deſtroy us at once!

The Diſcovery of this Letter unravelled the whole Myſtery of all the former; and henceforward all Letters directed as before were ſtopt, and thoſe that came from Abroad were intercepted. The real Perſon to whom they were directed was ſoon found out, and his Haunts were as ſoon known.

Being a Papiſt, he never failed going to one of the Ambaſſador's Chapels of a *Sunday*, and as the *Spaniſh* Miniſter's in *Soho-Square*, was that which he moſt uſually frequented, and a Secretary of State's Warrant being iſſued for his Apprehenſion, he was way-laid coming from thence by two of his Majeſty's Meſſengers on *Sunday* the 21ſt of *Auguſt* laſt, and after being dodg'd to two Houſes in *Dean-Street*, and from thence to the *Montpellier* Coffee-Houſe, facing *Greek-Street*, where he dined, he was ſeized in St. *Martin's-Lane*, and conducted to one of the Meſſenger's Houſes in *Jermyn-Street*.

As ſoon as he was thus ſecured, his Lodgings, at Mr. *Blount's*, in *Arundel-Street*, in the *Strand*, were ſearched, where were found in his Bureau twenty-nine rough Draughts of Letters, which had been wrote in Lemon-Juice between the black Lines; and thoſe wrote in the ſame manner, which he had received from his Employers.

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In thoſe which he had received from Abroad, were Complaints of "the In-"ſignificance of his Intelligence, and "how they were better ſerved by a Per-"ſon who lived (or had lived) at *Col-"cheſter*: That there was no need of ac-"quainting them with what the Duke "was doing in *Germany*, they being much "earlier and better informed than he "could inſtruct them. Alſo Inſtructi-"ons how to write with greater Safety* "and Diſpatch, by means of directing "all the important Letters to his Brother, "who ſerved in the double Capacity of "Chaplain ‡ and Under-Secretary to the "*Sp*——*ſh* Miniſter at the *Hague*."

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* By means of writing in Lemon-Juice,—a poor Device, which every School-Boy could have thought of, or detected.

‡ Being a *Romiſh* Prieſt.

THESE Instructions he closely followed, as appeared by the rough Draughts of his Letters, which lately contained more important Intelligence, as well with respect to the Disposition of our Fleets and Armies, as Secrets of the Cabinet, which it is surprising how he could get, and which can be accounted for no other way than by his frequenting such Coffee-Houses as these Things, it is supposed, were mentioned at. It appears he gave Intelligence of Admiral *Holburne*'s Destination to *Alexandria*, a few Days after the Admiral's Instructions were signed, and was particularly minute with respect to the Number of Ships and Troops on board, with the Day of their Departure, &c.

THIS Improvement in his Intelligence is to be attributed to the Increase which his Salary now received, for instead of 500 Livres a Quarter, he was promised that Sum every Month, and was also given to understand, that if there were any Hopes of procuring any Intelligence of great Consequence, not to spare Expence,

pence, as he might assure himself of all possible Encouragement. But this rich Endowment was but of short Duration; for he received but one Month's Salary before he was taken into Custody, when his Poverty was so great, that all his Cash, both in his Pocket and his Bureau, did not amount to a Guinea.

During his Confinement at the Messenger's, he was particularly reserved, very seldom entering into any Conversation, and never mentioning any Thing that related to his own Affairs. This Precaution was of very little Use, as he afterwards found; but he all along imagined that Things would not be pushed to Extremities, and that he could, by the Interceſſion of Friends, procure a Mitigation of his Punishment; but, alas! his Friends were, like most others, merely temporary, — his Coffee-House Acquaintance all disowned him; and those Persons who were any wise connected with him, were, through Necessity, obliged to be his Evidences, otherwise they would have been guilty of Misprision of High Treason, and liable to have suffered accordingly.

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The Facts were too glaring againſt him to let him eſcape with Impunity, and it was high Time to make an Example of ſome, to deter others from the ſame Practices. Therefore, after many Examinations before the Secretary of State, in which he made the moſt trifling Excuſes, pretending he was ignorant of the Conſequences of a ſimilar Conduct, though he actually invited and counſelled the *French* to come over, and make an Invaſion here; he was committed to *Newgate* on *Wedneſday*, the 9th of *March*, 1758, by the Right Honourable the Earl of *Holderneſſe*, one his Majeſty's principal Secretaries of State, being charged with High Treaſon, in adhering to, and aſſiſting the King's Enemies.

If his Finances were low at the time of his being taken into Cuſtody, they were at a ſtill greater Ebb at the time of his Commitment, after near ſeven Month's Confinement at the Meſſenger's, during which Time he had more than exhauſted the ſmall Remains of his Stock for Superfluities;

perſluities; in fine, he found himſelf under the Neceſſity of pawning his Sword for a Guinea to pay Garniſh, and is now much in Arrears for the Room in the Preſs-Yard, which he was to pay five Shillings a Week for. His Confinement in *Newgate* has all along reſembled that at the Meſſenger's; and he has ſcarce ſpoke to any but his Confeſſor, who frequently viſits him, ſince his being there.

He was indicted in *Eaſter*-Term, in the 31ſt of *George* II. the Sollicitor of the Treaſury being Proſecutor for the Crown, and the Indictment was found at *Weſtminſter* by the Grand Inqueſt for the County of *Middleſex*; and the ſame being returned to *Banco Regis*, he was brought from *Newgate* that Term to the Bar of the Court, and arraigned for High Treaſon, in adhering to the King's Enemies, and carrying on, by Letters, a treaſonable Correſpondence with one *La Roche*, and *P. de France*, as appeared by the Anſwers he received to his Letters from theſe *French* Correſpondents; to which Indictment he pleaded *Not Guilty*; and he had

a Copy of the Indictment delivered to him, and the Court ordered him to prepare for his Trial on *Monday* the 12th Day of *June* following.

He was, in consequence thereof, the 12th of *June*, conducted from *Newgate* in a Hackney Coach, the Irons which he wore being taken off; and between Nine and Ten o'Clock that Morning brought into the Court of *King's-Bench*, by Mr. *Richard Akerman*, Head Keeper of *Newgate*, in whose Custody he was; and being put to the Bar, after the usual Forms for Silence, &c. the Jury were called, and the Prisoner was arraigned on the Indictment. He stood indicted by the Name of *Florence Hensey*, Doctor of Physic, late of the Parish of St. *Clement Danes*, in the County of *Middlesex*, for that he, being a false Traitor, and not weighing the Duty of his Allegiance to our Sovereign Lord *George* the Second, King of *Great-Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, &c. in the Months of *May* and *June*, 1757, and at divers other Times, as well before as after, in the Parish aforesaid, and

County

County aforesaid, with Force and Arms, feloniously, traiterously, and of his Malice aforethought, did write certain Letters to the Agents and Subjects of *Lewis*, the *French* King, with whom we are now at open War, giving an Account of the Strength of our Fleets and Armies that were then preparing in *Great Britain*; and inviting the said *Lewis*, the *French* King, his Subjects and Vassals, to invade these Realms, and to make a most bloody Slaughter on his Majesty's Subjects.

To this Indictment he pleaded *Not Guilty*, and excepted against eleven of the Jury before they came to be sworn; and, having finished his Challenges, a Special Jury was sworn, composed of Twelve Gentlemen of great Property in the County of *Middlesex*.

The Council for the Crown were

Mr. *Attorney General*,
Mr. *Solliciter General*,
Sir *Richard Lloyd*,
Mr. *Norton*,

Mr. *Parratt*,
Mr. *Gould*,
Mr. Serjeant *Pool*.

Council for the Priſoner.
Mr. *Morton*,
The Hon. Mr. *Howard*.

THE Council for the Crown opened the Indictment by ſetting forth that the Priſoner at the Bar, though a Subject of this Realm, and living under the Protection of its Laws, had for a conſiderable Time paſt held a treaſonable Correſpondence with the Enemies of our gracious Sovereign Lord the King, and other high Crimes and Miſdemeanors. They further ſet forth, that the Priſoner had ſollicited and procured a Penſion from the *French* Miniſters, in order, as far as in him lay, to betray the Secrets of our Sovereign Lord the King, and give ſuch Intelligence to his ſaid Enemies of the Deſtination of his Majeſty's Fleets, the Number of Ships they were compoſed of, and by whom commanded; as alſo of the Number of Troops in *Great-Britain*, and the *Engliſh* Colonies

Colonies abroad, whereby any Deſign to annoy the Enemies of theſe Kingdoms might be fruſtrated, his Majeſty's Territories invaded, and even his ſacred Life endangered; as it is reaſonable to conclude from his known Valour and Love for his Subjects, he would head his own Troops in ſo perilous and critical a Situation. That as to the Crime for which he ſtood indicted, it was as much more fatal in its Conſequences than an Act of open Rebellion, as the Power of an whole Nation was ſuperior to that of a ſingle Perſon. The Council then proceeded to ſhew that Notice having been received by the Government of ſuch treaſonable Correſpondence, Meſſengers were ſent to apprehend the Priſoner, who found in his Bureau Copies of Twenty-nine Letters of Intelligence which he ſent to *France*, ſome of which were of the moſt dangerous Tendency, not only giving Advice of the Diſpoſition of our Fleets and Armies, their Force and Deſtination, but alſo counſelling and adviſing a Deſcent in this Iſland, in order to effectually prevent our Succeſſes abroad.

The Witneſſes were then examined.

1ſt. The Servant Maid at Mr. *Blount*'s, and another Witneſs (his Waſherwoman) proved that he lodged in a Room up one Pair of Stairs at Mr. *Blount*'s, and that the Bureau, in which the Letters were found by the Meſſengers, was in the Priſoner's ſaid Room up one Pair of Stairs.

The Priſoner's Council remarked, in regard to this Evidence, that as the Houſe was a common Lodging-Houſe, and at that Time full, theſe Papers and Letters might be put into the Bureau by ſome other Perſon, Mrs. *Blount* the Landlady having a Key to the ſame.

But this Objection was ſet aſide by its being proved, that the Key that Mrs. *Blount* the Landlady had in her Poſſeſſion, could not open the upper part of the Bureau, where theſe Papers were, but only the Drawers of the under part of the Bureau where the Doctor's Linen was.

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THE Identity of the Hand-writing was the principal Point to be proved, which was done by ſeveral credible Witneſſes; namely Mr. *M—d—x*, on whom he had had ſeveral Bills of Exchange, Dr. *W—l-kr—b—n* of *Weſtminſter*, and ſeveral Apothecaries, who had received Preſcriptions from the Doctor, for Patients that he had under his Care, which they had kept on their Files.

A Point of Law was argued by the Priſoner's Council concerning a Flaw in the Indictment, as they aſſerted all the Letters read in Court were wrote in *London*, and intercepted at the General Poſt Office in *Lombard-ſtreet*, and that therefore the Indictment could not be laid in *Middleſex*; but it appearing one of theſe Letters was dated at *Twickenham*, the Court over-ruled this Matter.

VARIOUS Points of Law being now ſtarted by the Council for the Priſoner, to oppoſe the Proof of the Overt-Act of High Treaſon, they endeavoured to inſinuate that holding a Correſpondence with the King's

King's Enemies, was not in itſelf High Treaſon; and that if it were, as he had not actually correſponded with them but in *Holland*, *Germany*, and *Switzerland*, which were not Parts of the Dominions of the *French* King, he could not be found guilty of the Crime for which he was indicted.

But the ſophiſtry of theſe Arguments was eaſily combated by the Council for the Crown, who made it plainly appear that theſe Letters were not wrote to thoſe Perſons to whom the outſide Superſcription was addreſſed, but directed to them to be forwarded to *Paris*; that the Correſpondence itſelf did not only render him guilty of Treaſon, but alſo the Nature of the Correſpondence by which he adhered to and aſſiſted the King's Enemies.

Whereupon Lord *Mansfield* made a very candid and judicious Recapitulation, of the various Points upon which the Evidence turned, remarking at the ſame Time, that though Clemency was one of the moſt God-like Attributes of Humanity,

nity, it was neceſſary the Gentlemen of the Jury ſhould conſider the Heinouſneſs of the Crime and the Credibility of the Witneſſes, and then let their Conſciences give the Verdict.

So impartial and favourable a Charge, could not fail of extorting the Approbation of every Spectator, and the Priſoner himſelf was obliged afterwards to own that he did not expect ſo much Clemency from his Lordſhip, whom he had, with the reſt of the Nation, ſo highly offended. The Gentlemen of the Jury retired, and with equal Candour weighed the various Evidences and Points that occured; and without the leaſt Preoccupation or Prejudice againſt the Priſoner diſcuſſed the Subſtance of each Witneſs's Teſtimony. However frivolous the Objections of the Council for the Priſoner, they were nevertheleſs with the greateſt Caution examined, and if the leaſt Force of real Oppoſition could have been extracted from them, they would not have failed to have had their Weight; but the Intent of thoſe Letters, the dangerous Conſequences that might have enſued

ſued therefrom, as well by the Intelligence of the Diſpoſition of our Marine and Land Forces, of the Deſtination of our Expeditions, and the Intentions of the Miniſtry; as by the Invitation he gave the *French* to land a numerous Body of Troops in this Iſland, to prevent our making a Diverſion upon the Continent; being ſo manifeſt. The Bureau and Papers being ſo clearly proved in his and no one elſe's Cuſtody: The Identity of the Hand-writing being ſo indubitably evinced: The Points of Law ſtarted by the Council, being ſuch manifeſt Evaſions and Subterfuges: His Correſponding with the King's Enemies, and the Illegality of that Correſpondence being ſo ſtrongly atteſted—In ſhort the Overt-Act of High Treaſon being ſo inconteſtably proved upon him, the Gentlemen of the Jury, after having retired near three Quarters of an Hour, found him guilty of the Indictment.

During the Abſence of the Jury to conſider of their Verdict, the Doctor ſeemed to be greatly affected—being then the only Object of the Multitude's Attention,

tion, who was much out of Countenance; his Colour went and came, whilſt his Face was dropping with Sweat, and his whole Body was in one General Tremulation. He had hitherto behaved with great Calmneſs; but when he found how little his Council had to urge in his Favour, and of what ſmall Weight that little was, his trifling Fortitude left him, and he was no longer able to refrain from Tears, to hide which he put his Hat before his Face.

This corroborates the Axiom "that "Cruelty is inherent in Cowards." He that could adviſe, and of courſe wiſh, a Deſcent in *England*, where Thouſands would have been put to the Sword, trembled, ſhed Tears, and almoſt fainted at the Apprehenſions of Death; the Death of a Villain who had ſold his Country, and would have ſacrificed it Laws——yet ſtill hoped Clemency from the one, and Protection from the other—Juſtice he had from both!

When the Jury returned into Court, he was ſcarce able to ſupport himſelf, and it was with ſome Difficulty he held up his Hand at the Bar. The Foreman of the Jury having pronounced him guilty of *High Treaſon*, he was aſked by the Judges whether he choſe any particular Time for receiving Sentence, that the Multitude of People that were then preſent might not incommode him, which he anſwerd with a forced Smile; and the *Wedneſday* following was appointed for the Sentence being given.

The Keeper of *Newgate* having withdrawn him from the Bar, he was carried back to *Newgate* in the ſame Manner he came, and there cloſe confined, and again fettered. In returning to Priſon he ſpoke very little, ſaying only "his Spirits were "greatly fatigued, and he was worried "to Death."

Being again conducted on *Wedneſday* the 14th of *June* to the Bar of the Court of *King's-Bench*, he there received Sentence

tence " to be drawn on a Sledge to *Ty-*
" *burn*, and there to be hung up by the
" Neck, but cut down before dead, have
" his Bowels taken out, and his Heart
" thrown in his Face, and his Body
" quartered."

During the reading of the Sentence, he held his Handkerchief up to his Face. Upon being aſked if he had any Thing to offer in his Behalf, he deſired a Fortnight to prepare himſelf for his End, and the Court through their great Lenity, allowed him 'till the 12th of *July* 1758, which Day is appointed for his Execution.

Upon his Return to *Newgate* he expreſſed great Satisfaction at the Candour and Indulgence of the Court, ſeemed thoroughly ſenſible of the Heinouſneſs of his Crimes, and convinced of the Juſtice of his Puniſhment.

He had, 'till his Trial, let himſelf be perſuaded by his Sollicitor that he had nothing to fear, that the Nature of his Offence could not be conſtrued into High

Treaſon, that there was not ſufficient Evidence to prove any one Point againſt him, and that a ſpecial Jury of Gentlemen of Property would certainly acquit him. In this Preſumption he looked upon his Sollicitor to be his Guardian Angel, and therefore beſeeched the Court at his Trial, to let him ſet next his Sollicitor, which was the only thing he ſaid, and which was readily acquieſced to. By this means his Spirits were ſupported tolerably well, 'till his Council had in vain repreſented "that there was no Culprit, however "criminal, but what was an Object of "Mercy; that the Throne was the Foun-"tain of Clemency, founded on Mercy." But when theſe elaborate Speeches were found to prove more the Eloquence of the Orator, than the Goodneſs of the Cauſe he was engaged in—When the Jury found the Priſoner guilty, and his Sentence was ready to be pronounced, his Spirits flagged; Dread, Horror, and Remorſe, ſurrounded him, and he was not able, even to keep up the Farce of Appearance.

SINCE

Since Sentence has been pronounced he has had many Conferences with his Confessor, under Pretence of Religion, though there is Reason to believe that they have principally related to put all possible Springs in Action, to obtain a Mitigation of his Punishment. His Brother, the S——sh Minister's Chaplain and Secretary at the *Hague*, has, it's said, for some time endeavoured to work upon the *English* Resident there to interest himself in favour of the Doctor his Brother; but hitherto without any manner of Success, as may be reasonably supposed.

The Detection of this Spy is of far greater Importance to the Nation than is at first by many imagined. It is plain, by the Letters found in his Bureau, and those intercepted at the Post-Office, that he gave a very exact Account of the Strength of Admiral *Holbourne*'s Fleet, that sailed last Year to *America*, long before it put to Sea; and perhaps it was owing to this Intelligence that we did not then make ourselves Masters of *Cape Breton*, and gain other Conquests in *America*.

America. The early Advice he gave of the Deſtination of the late Expedition, was not only ſurpriſing, but might have been of the moſt fatal Conſequence, if the Letters, in which it was mentioned, had not been intercepted. And there is not the leaſt Reaſon to doubt, but that if he had continued his traiterous Correſpondence 'till now, without Diſcovery, he would, by the ſame Means that he gained his other ſecret Intelligence, acquainted himſelf with, and have let the *French* known, our Deſign of landing at *Cancalle*, with our future Plan of Operations; and the Deſtination of Lord *Anſon*'s Fleet, which ſtill remains here an impenetrable Secret, the *French* Court would probably have been informed of before now.

His good Wiſhes towards *England* are clearly evinced in his Letter, dated from *Twickenham*, wherein he adviſes a Deſcent; and it is not to be doubted, when his Salary was ſo conſiderably increaſed from 25 *l.* a Quarter to 25 *l.* a Month, he would have taken great Pains to inform

form himſelf of the propereſt Places for ſuch a Deſcent. The unfiniſhed Plans found in his Cuſtody, plainly indicate that he was very attentive to give the *French* the moſt perfect Idea, of the Strength and Condition of our Sea-Ports, Harbours and Bays; and that he only waited for a favourable Opportunity to tranſmit them with Safety.

UNDER our preſent happy Adminiſtration, wherein Sagacity, Unanimity, and Patriotiſm, all concur to make us revered by our Friends, and dreaded by our Enemies; whoſe Judgment and Conduct have changed the Face of our Affairs in every Corner of the World—from the *Coaſt of Africa* to the *Rhine*——from *Bengal* to *Louiſbourg*: We ſeem to have nothing to fear but *ſecret Enemies*—our open declared Foes fly before our Arms in every Part. Thoſe Alliances, which late were courted by every petty Potentate for Protection, are ſhunned and deſpiſed—Thoſe Banners which late were thought the Standards of Victory, are now turned into Flags of Capitulation. The great Powers of *Europe*

rope ſeem aſhamed of their League, which they formed to hunt down a ſingle Prince of *Brandenburg*, who in the Courſe of one Campaign, has humbled the Pride of *Auſtria* and *Bourbon!*

In theſe ſucceſsful Times, let Prudence and Courage go Hand in Hand with our Victories; let us look upon his Majeſty of *Pruſſia*, not only as an Ally, as a Branch of the auguſt Houſe of *Brunſwic*, now upon the Throne,—but as a Proteſtant, who took up Arms in Defence of the civil and religious Liberties of *Europe*,—who has prevented the total Subverſion of Proteſtantiſm,—and the Conſtitution of the Empire, to the *Gallic* and *Auſtrian* Arms. Let us ſpare no Expence in the Support of our Navy, which is our natural and only Bulwark.—With this we can annoy the Enemy in their moſt tender Parts—their Commerce and Navigation; when theſe decline, their Wealth, their Power wither with them. Our *American* Colonies are our next important Care.—Theſe muſt be protected—defended—and cleared from all Encroachments;

ments; for no Advantages in *Europe* can counterballance the Intrusion of the *French* into a single Province there. Our Forts and Settlements on the Coast of *Africa*, as well as those in the *East-Indies*, though of subordinate Consequence, should nevertheless be, and doubtless are, properly attended to.

But above all, let us endeavour to root out those Devils incarnate, who are ever upon the Watch to gain Intelligence and transmit it to the Enemy; for whilst they remain amongst us, the best concerted Scheme may prove abortive—the best laid Plan may be frustrated—or the most important Expedition defeated.

In this Light, then, the Detection of this traiterous Emissary may be productive of more Advantages to the Nation than the gaining of a Battle. His Punishment, it is to be hoped, will be a Terror to the rest, who for want of a recent Instance of a similar Execution, may have flattered themselves, that their Wiles were impenetrable, or their Conviction impracticable.

THE Inſtructions which this Traitor received in the Letters ſigned *La Roche*, and *P. de France*, plainly point out what are the Objects of *France*'s moſt immediate Attention——*Changes in the preſent Miniſtry*, which they ardently wiſh for——*The Succeſs of the Militia*, which they ſo much dread, and to prevent which they have employed ſo many Emiſſaries, to prejudice the People againſt it——*Our Marine*, which as long as it is upon ſo reſpectable a Footing, as it is at preſent, muſt be the Deſtruction of their Trade and Navigation——*Our Colonies*, thoſe Sources of Riches, Commerce and Induſtry, which greatly prevent the Sale of their Sugars at foreign Markets; from whence they themſelves are compelled to be ſerved with Tobaccos; and which, it is to be hoped, will ſoon rival them in their Indigo Trade.

THESE, then, are Topics which ſhould be mentioned in public, with the greateſt Care and Prudence, and no Lights that may be turned to the Advantage of the Enemy,

Enemy, ever thrown out in ſuch Places as may be infeſted by *French* Spies. If this were properly adhered to, the private Intelligence the *French* receive of our Operations, would be greatly diminiſhed, if not intirely prevented; and thoſe Traitors who were diſpoſed to furniſh our Enemies with ſuch treaſonable Advices, would find themſelves under a Neceſſity of diſcontinuing, as well from their Inability, as for want of Recompence, it being unreaſonable to imagine the *French* Court would pay them for only their Inclination.

I think it would be neceſſary to perpetuate the Memory, the Crimes, and Puniſhment of this Traitor, by ſome Inſcription in the Nature of a Monument, which ſhould be erected in Terrorum.

The following, for want of a better, might be graved on his Tombſtone.

Here

Here lies the Body of

FLORENCE HENSEY,

Doctor of Physic,

Who departed this Life in the 44th Year

of his Age.

A WRETCH

Who sold himself and his Country for

little more than a Mess of Pottage,

to the King's most inveterate Enemies.

Invited the *French* over

To cut the Throats of his Majesty's liege

Subjects.

Was tried according to those Laws

Which he had trampled upon, and

With the strictest Justice,

Executed at *Tyburn* the 12th Day of

MAY,

A. D. 1758.

FINIS.